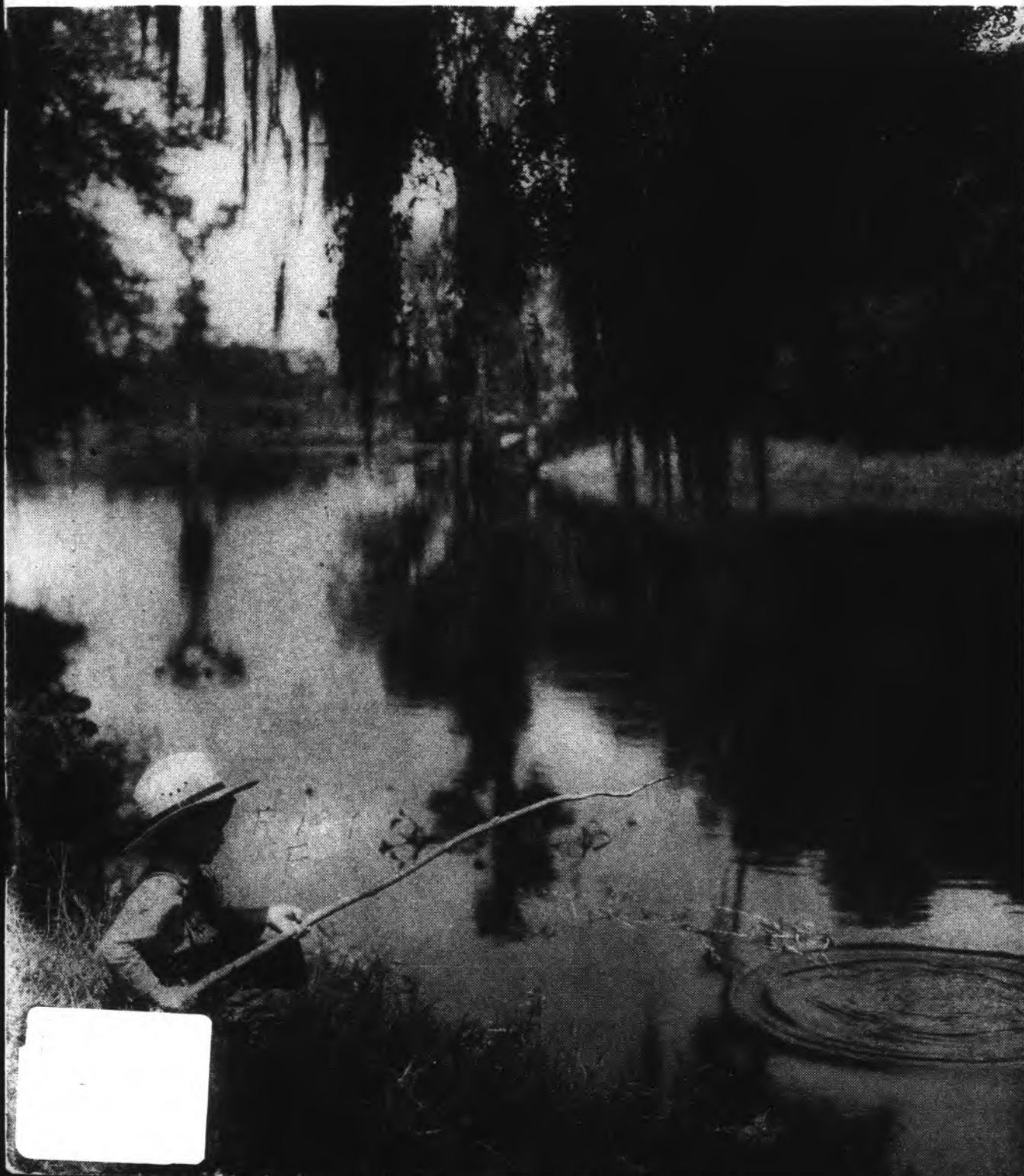
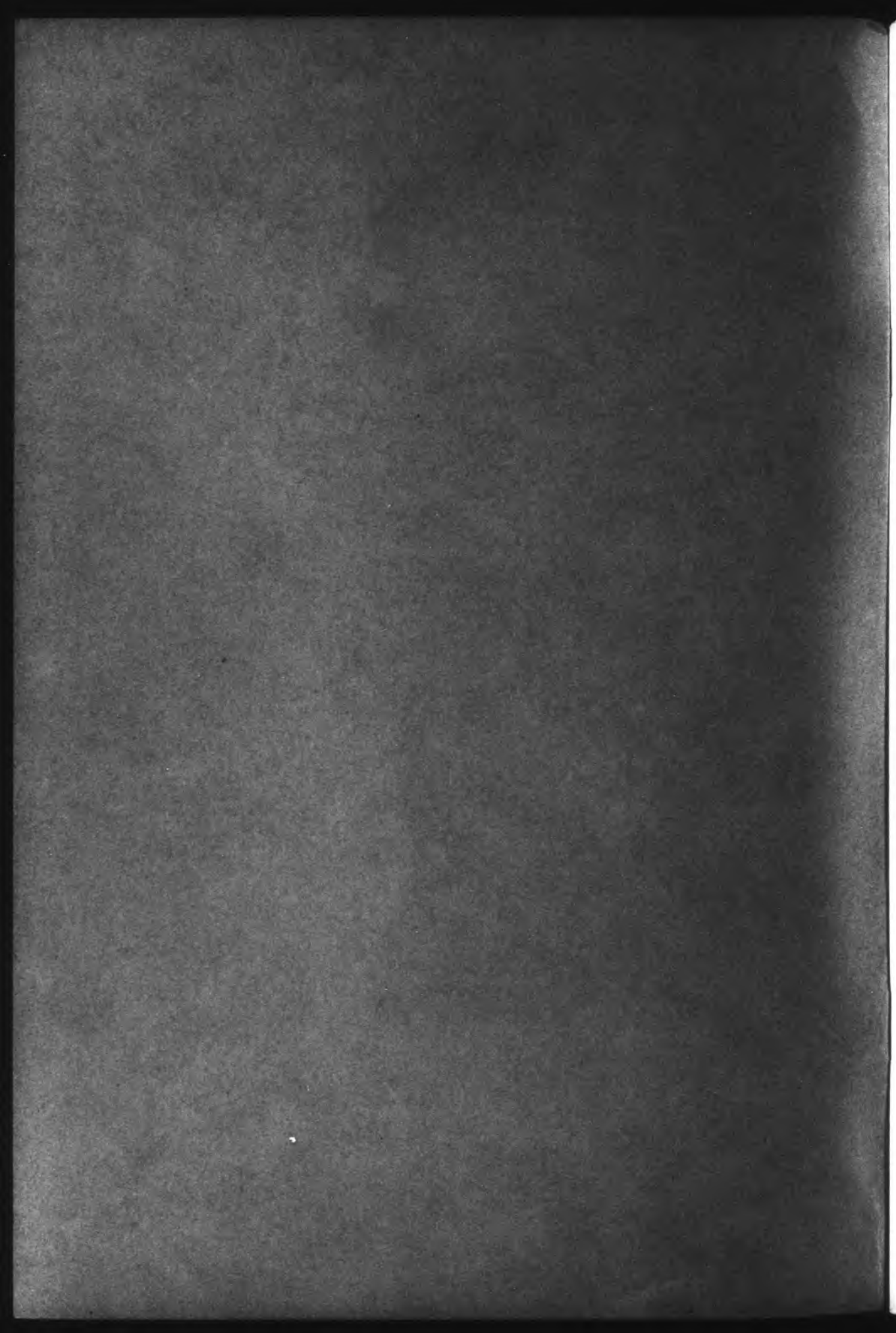


BIENNIAL REPORT
for Period Ending December 31, 1940

FLORIDA STATE LIBRARY

STATE OF FLORIDA
COMMISSION OF GAME
AND FRESH WATER FISH





Biennial Report

COMMISSION OF GAME AND
FRESH WATER FISH

of the

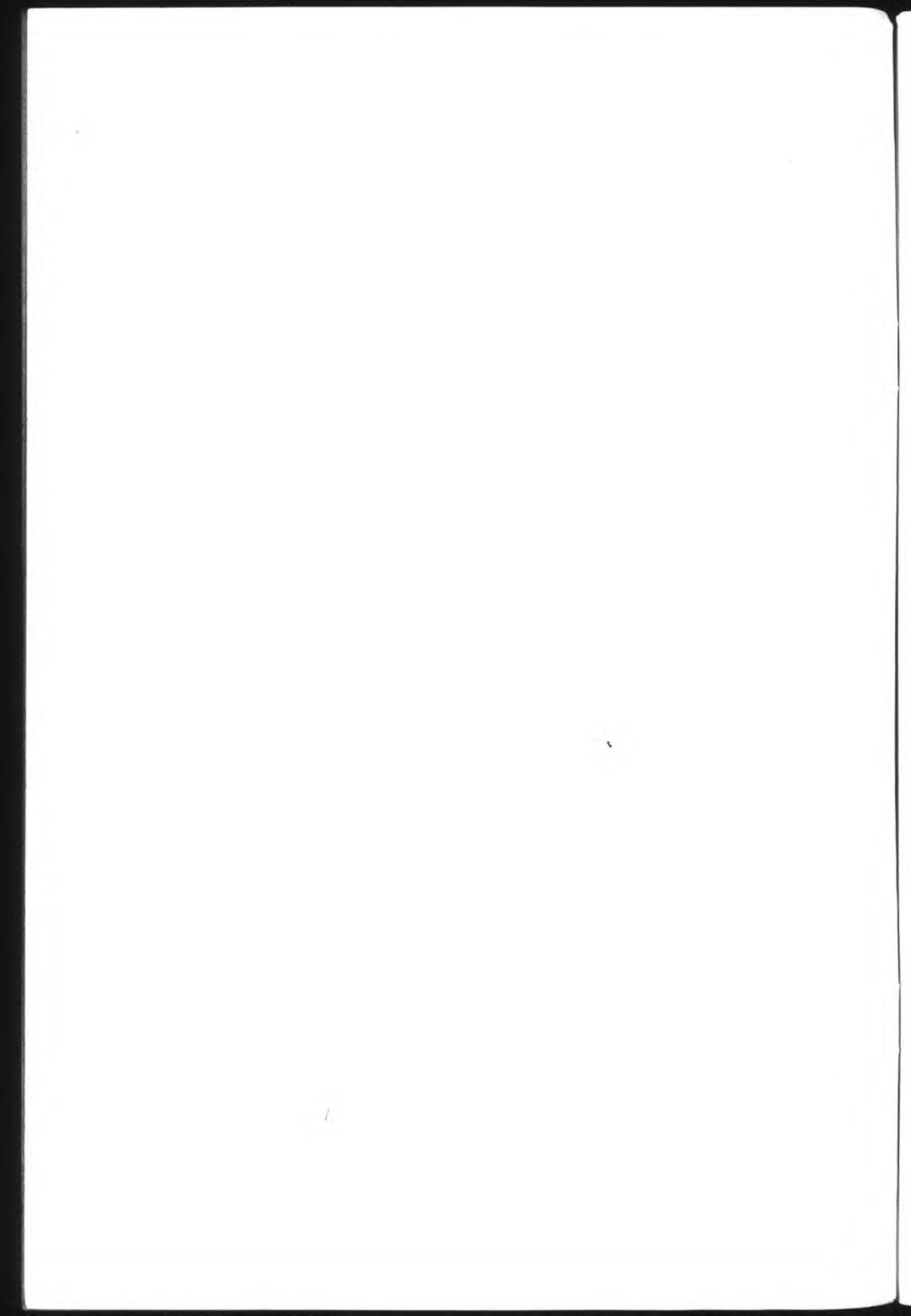
STATE OF FLORIDA

BIENNIUM ENDING

December 31, 1940



I. N. KENNEDY
Executive Secretary
Tallahassee, Florida



Submitting Report

Tallahassee, Florida

March 15, 1941

W. Lamar Gammon, Chairman
Commission of Game and Fresh Water Fish
State of Florida

Sir :

I am submitting herewith the report of the work of the State Commission of Game and Fresh Water Fish for the conservation of Florida's wildlife resources during the biennium closing December 31, 1940.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "I. N. Kennedy". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name of the signatory.

I. N. KENNEDY,
Executive Secretary

Commission of

GAME AND FRESH WATER FISH

STATE OF FLORIDA

FIRST CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:

L. G. BRUCE, Bartow, appointed November 1, 1939,
with term expiring June 30, 1943; succeeding
Dr. F. G. Garner, Winter Haven.

SECOND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:

THOMPSON S. BAKER, Jacksonville; appointed
July 26, 1937, with term expiring June 30, 1941.

THIRD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:

W. LAMAR GAMMON, Marianna, *Chairman*; ap-
pointed June 30, 1937, with term expiring
June 30, 1941

FOURTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:

INMAN W. WEEKS, Pahokee; appointed June 20,
1939, with term expiring June 30, 1942;
succeeding H. L. Schaller, Miami.

FIFTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:

JOHN S. CLARDY, Ocala; appointed March 28, 1938,
with term expiring June 30, 1940; Reappointed
September 27, 1940, with term expiring
June 30, 1944.

W. LAMAR GAMMON, Chairman
I. N. KENNEDY, Executive Secretary
Tallahassee, Florida

Letter of Transmittal

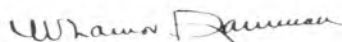
Tallahassee, Florida
March 15, 1941

To His Excellency
Spessard L. Holland
Governor of the State of Florida

Sir:

I have the honor of transmitting herewith the biennial report of work that has been done for the conservation of Florida's wildlife resources, as directed by the Commission of Game and Fresh Water Fish during the period closing December 31, 1940.

Respectfully submitted,



W. LAMAR GAMMON.
Chairman



Florida —————

G A M E A N D F I S H

————— *for August*

The above was by far the best-liked cover photograph used during the first year of the Commission's new publication.)

Introduction

Since 1935, the year in which it was created by the Legislature, the Commission of Game and Fresh Water Fish has been the branch of the government of the State of Florida charged with care of Florida's wildlife, and the administration of the State's laws affecting the game and fresh water fish within its boundaries.

The Commission consists of five members, who, as required by law, are "well-informed on the subject of wildlife, conservation and restoration." They are appointed by the Governor for four-year staggered terms, one from each of the five congressional districts of the State.

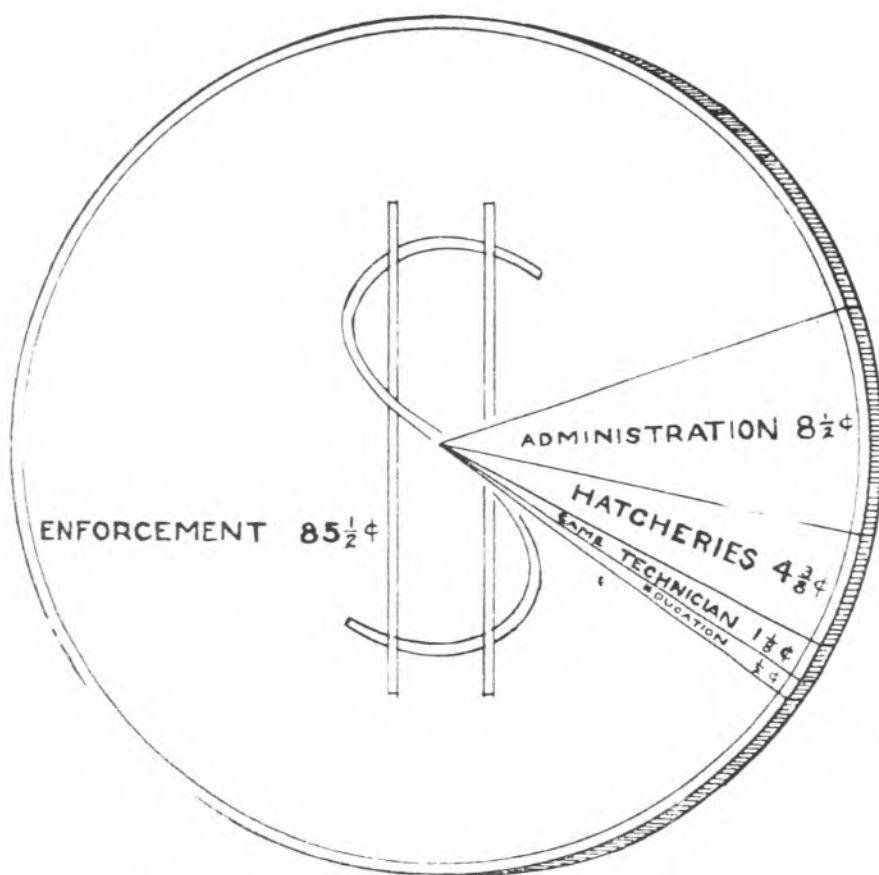
Acting in an administrative capacity for the Commission is the Executive Secretary, selected and employed by the Commission.

The Commission is represented in each district by a Chief Conservation Officer, to whom the Conservation Officers in that district are primarily responsible, and who supervises all of the Commission's work in that district, whether it be enforcement, restocking, or investigation.

In the field the Commission has regularly just over 100 Conservation Officers, at least one to each County, with additional officers distributed where hunting, fishing or trapping is heaviest.

The Commission's income is derived from the sale of hunting, fishing, trapping, boats for hire, guides' and other licenses to residents and non-residents. No additional funds are given to the Commission for operation; and, on the other hand, the Commission has sole use of these funds. As population, interest in the out-of-doors, and enforcement have progressed, so has the Commission's income. During the first fiscal year of its existence, the Commission's revenue amounted to \$151,936.67. In the latest fiscal year for which a report is available, July 1, 1939, to June 30, 1940, the total revenue amounted to \$227,590.82, an increase of 50 per cent in a five-year period.

This revenue is expended as shown in the accompanying diagram, which represents one dollar of revenue, for the fiscal year 1939-1940, and the percentage of that dollar used for the various divisions of the Commission's activity.



HOW THE WILDLIFE DOLLAR IS SPENT

Administration	8 1/2%
Enforcement	85 1/2%
Hatcheries	4 3/8%
Game Technician	1 1/8%
Education	1/4%
	<hr/>
	100%

LICENSES

As the Commission's income is derived from the sale of licenses, it is of interest to note the various types of licenses issued by the Commission under authorization of the laws of the State as enacted by the Legislature.

These licenses are sold by County Judges, in most instances, with a small fee being authorized by law to compensate the Judge for clerical expense. A few licenses, as indicated, are sold directly by the Executive Secretary at his office at Tallahassee.

Exempt from purchase of hunting, fishing and trapping licenses are residents 65 years of age and over, and children under 15 years of age.

Licenses are as follows, with the County Judge's fee included:

GAME

Series I—Resident County Game	\$ 1.25
Series J—Resident, Other than Home County	3.25
Series K—Resident, State	5.50
Series L—Non-Resident, State	25.50
Series M—Non-Resident 10-day continuous	10.50
Series M-1—Non-Resident County, Owners of and paying taxes on 3000 acres of land	10.50
Series Y—Guide; Required for guiding hunting parties. Guides may not take game or carry rifle or shotgun while conducting party. Issued from office of Commission, Tallahassee	10.50
Report of Game killed in previous season must be filed with County Judge when applying for hunting license. Failure to file data on blank form attached to application is cause for refusal of license.	
Alien Hunting—Issued from office of Commission, Tallahassee	50.00

FISHING

Series A—Resident State, Fresh Water*	\$ 2.25
Series B—Non-Resident State, Fresh Water	5.50
Series C—Non-Resident, 10-day Continuous Fishing, Fresh-Water	2.25
Special Non-Resident License required in Washing- ton County	25.00

*License not required of residents to fish in county of residence or border waters of county.

TRAPPING

Series N—Resident County	\$ 3.25
Series O—Non-Resident County	25.50
Series P—Resident State	25.50
Series Q—Resident of County Other than Home	10.50
Series R—Non-Resident State	100.50

COMMERCIAL LICENSES

(Issued from Office of Commission, Tallahassee)

FRESH-WATER FISH DEALERS

Series U—Resident retail. May sell to consumer or dealer.	\$ 5.00
Series V—Resident Wholesale, (to sell or ship by half-barrel, barrel or in bulk)	50.00
Non-Resident or Alien, (to sell to consumer or wholesaler.)	50.00
Non-Resident Wholesale (to sell or ship in half-barrel, barrel or bulk)	500.00

COMMERCIAL BOATS

Series X—Resident, fish boat twenty feet long, five foot beam and under	\$ 1.00
Ten cents for each additional foot in length or beam.	
Non-Resident, fish boat	10.00

BOATS FOR HIRE

Series W—Required for each boat rented for hunting, or fishing in fresh waters:	
18 feet length	\$ 2.50
19-21 feet length	4.00
21-25 feet length	15.00
Over 25 feet length	25.00

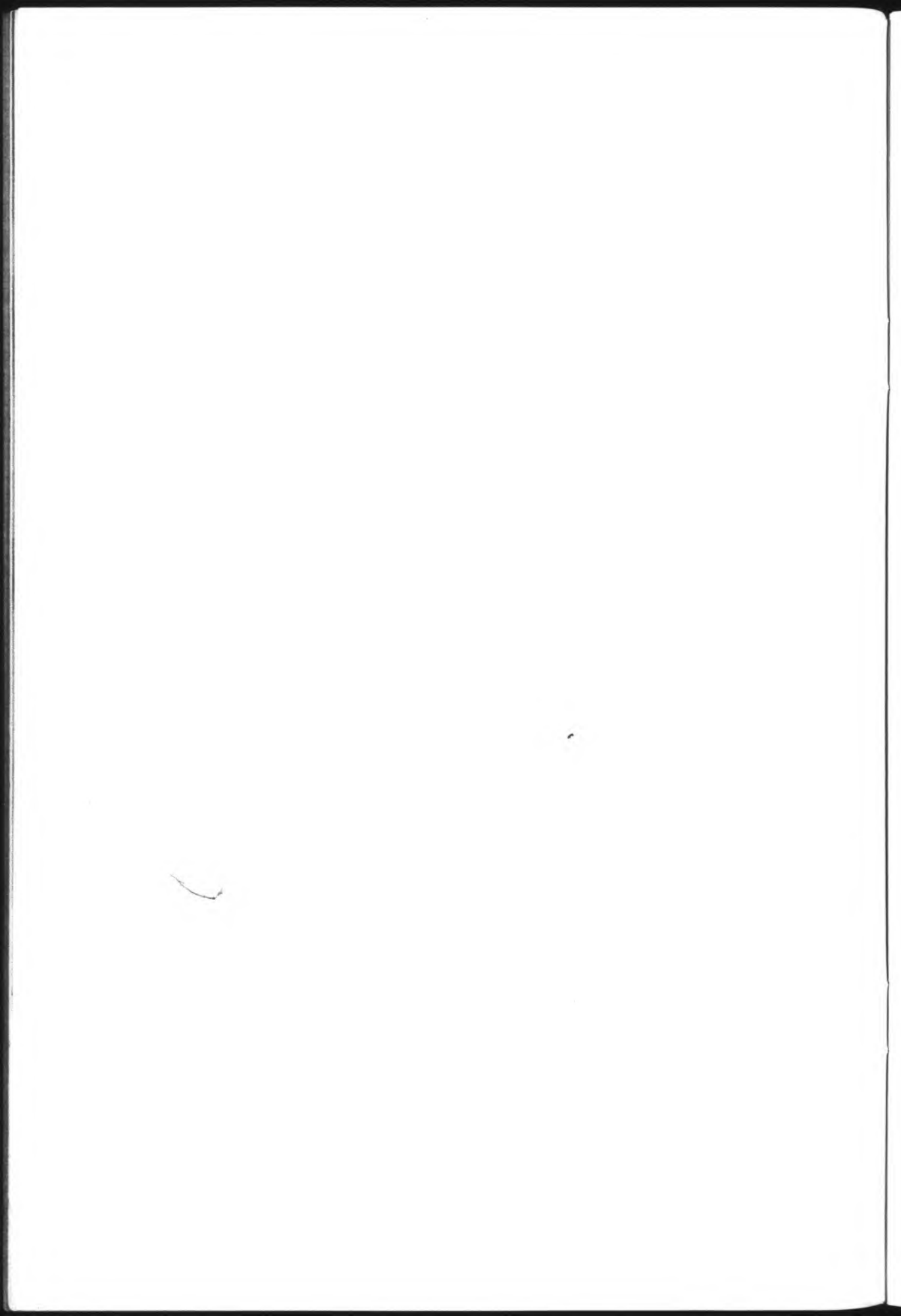
DEALERS IN ALLIGATOR SKINS AND GREEN OR DRIED FURS (SKINS)

Series S—Resident local dealer or buyer (must not solicit by mail, advertise, travel to buy or employ agents to buy)	\$ 10.00
Series T-1—Resident State Dealer or Buyer	100.00
Series T-2—Agent for licensed "Resident State Dealer or Buyer"	5.00

GAME FARM

Series Z—For operating privately owned Game Farms	\$5.00
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*The
Commission's
Report*



Florida's Wildlife

Today

The wildlife of Florida today stands at the crossroads—that same decisive point that has come, or will come, in the history of every natural resource—and an understanding of the problems is essential to their solution.

Last of the frontier states—so have the writers called Florida. But even the last of frontiers reaches a point where it no longer is a frontier, when it becomes absorbed in the onward surge of civilization. And thus it is with the wildlife of the State.

The wildlife—both game and non-game—of the State has been declared to be the property of the State; and at the same time is recognized as among the valuable natural resources of which the supply is limited and the value, whether recreational, economic or aesthetic, is tremendous.

It is from the standpoint of conserving or protecting the State's property, and at the same time enjoying its use, that the problem must be attacked.

Florida has about 30,000 fresh water lakes, far more than any other state in the Union. Once teeming with black bass, bream, speckled perch—the game fish of the State—the inroads of resident and non-resident anglers have made fish conservation an important issue. For the present fishing problem is seen to be more acute when it is realized that it is added to the inroads formerly made by commercial bass fishermen. No longer can black bass be sold in the State, thanks to legislation passed in 1935; but many lakes and streams have failed to recover from the slaughter of bass and the destruction of feeding and spawning beds of those days. In many lakes and streams roughfish and predatory fish, turtles, snakes gained such an ascendancy that now Nature must be aided to overcome the devastating effects of man's former thoughtlessness.

The same story holds true, with, of course, minor variations, when it comes to consideration of Florida's game. Once plentiful, apparently inexhaustible, the State's wildlife is now seen, even by the most casual observer, to be feeling the effect of constant hunting today as well as the thoughtless, careless, wanton slaughter of years gone by.

And, of course, just as much as the effects of hunting, the supply of game is affected by the changes in land use. Thousands and thousands of acres of land have been cleared for

building of new towns and cities that have sprung up; thousands and thousands more acres have been cleared for agricultural purposes; land has been drained for farming or for mosquito control; roads have been cut through almost inaccessible forests and thus have driven the game back even deeper. No longer do the natural refuges exist in profusion as they once did.

Yet, at the same time, the number of hunters has increased, and even with constantly stricter enforcement of game laws regulating bag limits and seasons, the actual legal toll of game taken is tremendous.

When a sportsman buys his hunting license, he reports on the game he killed during the previous hunting season. Obviously these figures are not 100 per cent accurate, depending, as they do, on memory, and on the fact that many hunters may not purchase licenses regularly, year after year. But in the main they can be taken as an indication of the trend in taking game, and the figures show that a heavy toll is being taken, which undoubtedly is more than nature can successfully replace each year without adequate protection and a policy of restoration.

Following is the table of game taken during the seasons of 1937-38 and 1938-39, as shown by reports made when hunting licenses for the following year were purchased:

YEAR	Quail	Dove	Ducks	Squirrel	Geese	Deer	Turkey
1937-38.	776,460	501,232	56,531	232,463	747	1773	3139
1938-39.	735,690	479,214	97,969	199,612	534	1539	2727

As these figures are incomplete for reasons given above, and because some Counties failed to make the required report (18 counties in 1937-1938 and 20 counties in 1938-1939 are missing), it is believed that the figures should be increased by about one-fourth to give an accurate picture of the actual game taken.

Thus it can be seen that more than a million Bob-white quail were taken in each of the two hunting seasons—a drain on the quail population that calls for serious thought and consideration.

In the former of the two seasons considered there were 55,693 licensed hunters (including both resident and non-resident) and in the latter there were 57,925 hunters. The number of hunters continues to increase, and they will hope to continue to find game in the same abundance.

As a necessary step toward better protection for wildlife, and more efficient enforcement of the present regulations, the Commission definitely recommends that all laws affecting game be State-wide, to correct the present patch-work of local and special laws which are conflicting and misleading to the hunter, and difficult to enforce adequately.

It is this condition as well as the increase in number of hunters that the Commission, conservationists and sportsmen of the State have to face and to take into consideration in shaping policies for present and future action in restoration, and in recommendations to the Legislature for laws affecting wildlife.

CATTLE-FEVER TICK ERADICATION PROGRAM

The Legislatures of 1937 and 1939 authorized the State Live Stock Sanitary Board to kill deer in sections in Orange, Osceola, Hendry, Highlands, Glades and Collier Counties, on the basis of the Board's report that the cattle-fever tick in this State could not be eradicated without killing the deer, as many of the deer in the area were infested with the tick.

Dr. J. V. Knapp, State Veterinarian and Secretary to the Live Stock Sanitary Board, has given the following figures on the number of deer which have been killed in the program authorized by the Legislatures:

There have been killed in the deer reduction program, authorized by the Legislatures of 1937 and 1939, deer as follows:

Orange and Osceola Counties	731 deer
Brevard County	6 deer
Highlands County	126 deer
Glades County	10 deer

The deer reduction program has been completed in the above areas and the foregoing figures comprise all deer to be killed.

The deer reduction program is in process in Collier County, and the Live Stock Sanitary Board reported shortly after the close of the biennium that it had records of 2786 deer killed. During the first six months of the program, 37 per cent, it was reported by the Board, of the deer killed in Collier County showed infestation with cattle fever ticks.

STATUS OF FLORIDA'S WILDLIFE

A survey of the present wildlife, both game and non-game, in Florida, shows that while the trend over the past several decades has been toward serious reduction, this trend has been slowed down, stopped, and even reversed during the biennium which has just closed.

A review of the situation, by species, follows, and is based on reports of Conservation Officers and reports from other trained and qualified observers:

DEER

Two years ago a close check by counties of the State made by the Commission of Game and Fresh Water Fish showed that there were 16,908 deer in the State.

A similar check, just made, indicates that the number of white-tailed deer in Florida is now 16,169. In this report, gains in Walton, Santa Rosa and Okaloosa Counties, where deer have been given additional protection on the Eglin Field Military Reservation and the Blackwater River State Forest; and gains in several other areas, due to added protection; have partially offset the heavy reduction in Collier County, where, according to the foregoing figures from the State Live Stock Sanitary Board, 2786 deer have already been killed. The total reduction in the entire State is slightly less than 800 deer, as the deer killed in the tick eradication program in other Counties was practically complete at the beginning of the two-year period now being reported.

The game management program on the various National Forests, especially Ocala, is one of the most hopeful and promising signs of eventual restoration of deer in not only those areas, but in territory surrounding those areas.

The enactment in 1939 of the law by the Legislature which requires that hunters leave on the deer carcass marks of sex for identification, thus further protecting doe deer, has resulted in better protection for the white-tails, according to reports from the field.

TURKEY

Only a small reduction in wild turkey in Florida—one of the few States in the Union where the native wild bronze turkey is found in any considerable number—has been noted during the past two years. Slight gains in some areas have been offset, according to observers, by the fact that hunters in the tick eradication program in Collier County at times killed turkeys as well as deer. But, on the whole, Florida's turkey outlook is no worse than it was two years ago, and with the added protection of a shorter season should, in time, be increased somewhat. The Commission of Game and Fresh Water Fish recommends that the season on turkey be shortened to coincide with the deer season, November 20 to December 31.

QUAIL

Bob-white quail, so far as number of hunters is concerned, is undoubtedly Florida's principal game, and, as such, has been given probably greater attention than other species. Figures given in game kill censuses, as compiled by the Commission of Game and Fresh Water Fish, indicate that more than a million quail are killed annually during the hunting season, a drain on this resource which taxes Nature to replace.

Quail, of course, are merely a by-product of land which is used for other purposes, and the welfare of the bird is dependent upon what use is made of the land. Therefore, the success of public hunting is directly affected where the trends in land use destroy or reduce quail environment.

In Florida there are three land-use trends which are more or less rapidly reducing quail environment and which must be recognized in any quail restoration program:

1. Farmlands

So-called clean farming is becoming more wide-spread in the farming sections of the State, eliminating food and cover areas which formerly produced quail. Until food and shelter areas are maintained on or near these farms, quail populations will continue to be low in these areas.

2. Forest Lands

The acreage in forest lands under organized fire protection is increasing. As a result of the elimination of fire from pine



woods the ground vegetation becomes rank, choking out essential quail food plants and in other ways produces areas unfit for the production of quail. Since the piney woods provide a large part of the quail hunting territory in Florida, the success of hunting may be expected to decline. It is not the intent here to leave the impression that owners of timber lands should burn their woods. Contrarily, this is simply a statement of an existing condition and its effect on the production of quail.

3. Grazing Lands

The increased interest in producing high grade beef in Florida has resulted in the development and rapid extension of improved pastures. Over extensive areas of South Florida quail are able to survive in rather large numbers because of the existence of palmetto clumps which provide an abundance of well-distributed cover and the fact that vegetation on the native ranges was kept open by fires and comparatively light grazing. Cover is conspicuously reduced or eliminated as is food on improved pastures. The end result, dependent on how wide-spread livestock developments become, will be drastic reductions in quail environment.

Florida is the last of the pioneer states and the history of the pioneer period in other states indicates that during this period game is quite plentiful. We are now in a development stage and increased, more productive use of the land for greater cash income may be expected to change entirely the wildlife picture and formerly favorable game environments will consequently become non-productive.

It is obvious that the basic problem concerning the maintenance of good quail shooting hinges on land use. Once this thought is clearly fixed in mind it should be likewise obvious that simply game legislation and the wholesale release of artificially propagated or even wild-trapped quail is not the solution, though there is considerable room for improvement in the former. The approach to the problem is very difficult, for its solution depends on the widescale practicing of quail management by the landowner. Public shooting grounds will not entirely solve the problem for quail, for no state could finance the management of enough land to supply the growing army of hunters with good quail shooting, since it requires about 10,000 acres of land managed primarily for quail to produce a sustained, shootable crop of 1000 birds. In all probability public shooting grounds would solve the problem as far as other species of game are concerned.

SQUIRREL

Despite heavy shooting of squirrels every season, Florida's gray or "cat" squirrels apparently are holding their own, but there is a steadily diminishing number of fox squirrels. Many conservationists have urged removal of fox squirrels from the list of game animals, a closed season for several years, or at least a reduction in the present bag limit of 15 a day, and 200 in a season. A closed season which lasted from 1927 to 1932 produced only temporary benefits in increasing their number.

MOURNING DOVES

The mourning dove, while it comes under Federal regulations as a migratory bird, in Florida is both migratory and resident, although the larger number are migratory. Its popularity as a game bird is constantly on the increase, and Federal officers and State Conservation Officers unite in their efforts to protect it.

In January of 1940 unusual cold weather throughout the South caused the deaths of thousands and thousands of mourning doves in the States to the north of Florida, not only through freezing, but also through the fact that as snow covered grounds which were ordinarily not covered, food was scarce, and many birds died of starvation.

This reduction of the dove populations was apparent in the dove season in the fall of 1940, and is expected to continue apparent for several seasons. Anticipating this, Federal authorities in 1940 reduced the bag limit from 15 to 12 as a step toward restoring the reduced populations.

MIGRATORY WATERFOWL

A survey made by Conservation Officers of the Commission of Game and Fresh Water Fish in connection with agents of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service immediately after the 1940 waterfowl season indicated that there had been little or no State-wide change in their numbers. Eight reports showed an increase, eight reports, a decrease, and eight reports showed the same number as in the previous year.

The Fish and Wildlife Service, and its predecessor Federal agency, the U. S. Bureau of Biological Survey, in recent years has shortened seasons, reduced bag limits, and provided additional refuges in order to build up the numbers of waterfowl throughout the Nation. From a low of 30,000,000 ducks and

geese in 1934, their numbers have climbed, according to 1939-1940 estimates, to 65,000,000, and a further increase is expected to be shown in the January, 1941, inventory by the Fish and Wildlife Service.

Numbers of Canada geese are estimated to have remained the same, and for that reason the bag limit was reduced by the Federal agency from five in 1938-1939 to four in 1939-1940 and to three in 1940-41. Additional land has been added to the St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge, chief wintering place of Canada geese; and additional provisions are now being made there to increase the water area for geese and other migratory waterfowl.

The migratory waterfowl season in the Southern Area was lengthened by 15 days to include the months of November and December. This did not interfere with the heaviest duck concentration, nor break up mated pairs, according to statements made by scientists of the Fish and Wildlife Service.

MIGRATORY BIRD SEASON

In 1939 and 1940 the open season for taking migratory waterfowl under Federal regulations did not coincide with the opening of the State's hunting season, a situation which created possible confusion in the minds of sportsmen, and difficulties of interpretation on the parts of enforcement officers and the courts. For that reason, the Commission of Game and Fresh Water Fish suggested to those counties not bordering on the Gulf of Mexico (by statute, counties which do border on the Gulf observe the Federal rather than the State season for taking migratory waterfowl) that resolutions be adopted by County Commissioners opening the counties to the taking of migratory birds to allow sportsmen full advantage of the lengthened Federal season.

In 1939 the migratory bird season, under Federal regulation, opened November 15, five days before the general State hunting season, November 20. All Counties bordering on the Gulf of Mexico, except Charlotte, where the season opens December 1, opened on the Federal date by statute. All other counties opened November 15, except Baker, Calhoun, and Marion, where County Commissioners decided not to extend the season; and Bradford, Flagler, Hendry, Jackson, Liberty, Osceola, Putnam, Sumter, Volusia and Washington, where no action was taken, thus automatically establishing the State season as the migratory bird season.

The Federal regulations extended the migratory waterfowl season in 1940 from 45 to 60 days, starting November 2. County

Commissioners in most non-Gulf border counties again adopted resolutions setting the opening of the "duck season" to coincide with Federal regulations, with the exceptions of Marion, Putnam and Sumter, where Commissioners voted to adhere to the State opening date of November 20; and Baker, Calhoun, Holmes and Liberty Counties, where County Commissioners took no action.

FUR-BEARING ANIMALS

Fur-bearing animals in Florida are generally considered to be holding their own. In fact, low prices for pelts for several years kept reducing the number of trappers, as indicated by the sale of trapping licenses, to a low of 709 licenses sold for the 1938-1939 season. When the prices on furs rose, however, the sale of such licenses increased to 1049 for the 1939-1940 season, and the sale of licenses for the 1940-1941 season, from incomplete returns, was expected to show a 50 percent increase over the preceding year.

● ● RACCOON

Throughout the State the most popular fur-bearing animal among the trappers is the raccoon, largely because of the number of 'coons to be found in the various wooded areas. Apparently the 'coon is maintaining the same level, but a change in season is recommended by the Commission, to start the trapping season two weeks earlier—November 20; and to end it, also, two weeks earlier—February 15. This will give the same length trapping season, but will protect the 'coons during the mating period.

● ● OTTER

The Florida otter's pelt is by far the most valuable of that of any of the fur-bearers trapped in this State. Despite its resultant popularity with trappers, it is at least holding its own. Since its mating and gestation period is similar to that of the raccoon, the Commission recommends that the trapping season for this water-frequenter be the same as that recommended for the 'coon, from November 20 to February 15.

● ● BLACKBEAR

It has been estimated that there about 300 blackbears in Florida. The bear is protected in one County, Volusia; but though listed as a fur-bearer on the statute books of Florida, is extended no protection in other counties. To preserve this interesting and valuable mammal from extinction, the Commission recommends that the blackbear be placed under the game laws of the State, with an open season to coincide with the open season on deer, November 20 to December 31.

● ● OPOSSUM

Florida still has a plentiful supply of the opossum, North America's only marsupial. While its fur is not of very high grade, it is comparatively easy to take, but is sufficiently prolific to withstand the drain of trapping.

● ● FOX

Many game authorities challenge the accusation that the gray fox, Florida's representative of the vulpine family, deserves his reputation as a voracious predator. Though listed as a fur-bearer, it is without legal protection.

ALLIGATOR

The alligator, representative of Florida's distinctive wildlife in the minds of many who have never been to this State, has had little legal protection through the years until recently. Most of the local laws extending protection to alligators were adopted by the 1939 Legislature.

At present, the alligator is protected at all times in the following counties: Broward, Calhoun, Charlotte, Dade, Indian River, Levy, Martin, Orange, Palm Beach and St. Lucie. They also are protected in Silver River, Ocklawaha River, Lake Weir and Little Lake Weir in Marion County, and in Tomoka River in Volusia County. In Lee County alligators may be taken only during the open season, November 20 to February 20, and provided they are more than 30 inches long.

FISH

Florida's two outstanding laws affecting fish, adopted in 1935 and 1937, have continued to show results in the protection and conservation of this resource which is valuable both from an economic and an aesthetic standpoint.

In 1935 a law was enacted which prohibited the sale of black bass, and in 1937 further protection was provided by closing the fresh waters of the State to taking black bass for 66 days, from March 15 through May 19.

Local laws in 1939 nullified the beneficial effects of this law in some sections by voiding the closed season in the fresh waters of Lafayette, Glades, Hendry and Okeechobee Counties. The western portion of Lake Okeechobee is included in Glades and Hendry Counties, and is thus open to the taking of black bass the year 'round, as is the southeastern portion of the Lake, which in the same year was designated by a local law as a "breeding ground" for fish.

In other Counties, however, a definite conservation attitude has come into existence, and each year County Commissioners

in several Counties close the waters of their Counties to all fresh water fishing, as permitted by law, for a 60-day period approximating the closed period on black bass, which also approximates the spawning period of all Florida's fresh water fish.

Legislation closing all fresh waters of the State to all fishing during the spawning period is recommended and urged by the Commission of Game and Fresh Water Fish, as a necessary step in the conservation of Florida's great out-of-doors attraction. In addition, a reduced bag limit on all species of fresh water fish is recommended.



Conservation Officers with illegal net captured in Florida lake.

In Memoriam

THIS space is dedicated to those three Conservation Officers of the Commission of Game and Fresh Water Fish whose deaths occurred during the 1938-1939 Biennial Period. In recognition of their years of service to the conservation of their State's wildlife, tribute is hereby paid:

J. A. Perryman, Inverness, who died August 28, 1939.

S. L. Smith, St. Cloud, whose death occurred July 22, 1940.

A. A. Durden, Starke, who passed away March 16, 1940.

The Commission's Activities

LAW ENFORCEMENT

More than 80 per cent of the revenue of the Commission of Game and Fresh Water Fish is used for law enforcement, consisting mainly of the salaries of Conservation Officers and their expenses.

During the biennium, the average number of Conservation Officers employed by the Commission was 110, the number fluctuating to a certain extent due to seasonal demands.

Conservation Officers do not receive fees for making arrests, but the law provides, however, that the Commission of Game and Fresh Water Fish shall be allowed for making arrests the same fees as Sheriffs, fixed by law, and, with mileage, included in court costs.

THE CONSERVATION OFFICER

Men who occupy the post of Conservation Officer are selected on a basis of their knowledge of wildlife, of the territory which they will cover, and their good judgment and training.

In each district at frequent intervals, the member of the Commission and the Chief Conservation Officer for that district hold meetings or conferences of all the Conservation Officers in that particular district. At these conferences the problems of enforcement are discussed and ideas exchanged, resulting in better mutual understanding and more complete cooperation among the members of the law enforcement group.

In addition to law enforcement, of course, the Conservation Officers are representatives of the Commission in attending meetings of conservation and civic groups, and in making contacts with educators and pupils in the schools of the State.

ARRESTS AND CONVICTIONS

The accompanying table of violations gives an indication of the varied types of illegal acts and activities for which law-breakers were arrested during the two-year period.

The mere number of arrests, of course, is not a complete picture of this phase of the Commission's work, for arrests without convictions mean very little.

As the second portion of the accompanying table shows, the proportion of convictions to arrests has been high for the two year period. A close study of the figures reveals that there

has been an increase in the percentage of convictions to arrests during each of the three periods shown. This increase can be attributed to two major factors: the cooperation of the County Judges of the State in adhering strictly to the law in sentencing violators; and the steady increase in efficiency of Conservation Officers in making arrests.

For the whole biennium the total number of arrests was 1397, but of these 133 cases are still pending, so that there were, during the two years, 1264 cases completed. Of these 1264 cases, 1123 resulted in convictions, a percentage of 88.8 per cent. During the first six months of 1939, the percentage was 81.1 per cent; for the fiscal year from July 1, 1939 to June 30, 1940, the percentage of convictions was 87.6 per cent; and during the last six months of the biennium the percentage soared to 95.7 per cent.

RE-STOCKING

The Commission's program of restoration and re-stocking includes the trapping of quail in game breeding grounds, the purchase of quail for release, raising quail at the new Blackwater River Game and Fish Propagation Area, hatching and rearing fish at the Commission's two hatcheries at Winter Haven and Wewahitchka, and rearing fish at the Blackwater River Area. In addition, quantities of fish reared at the Federal hatcheries at Marianna and Welaka are turned over to the Commission of Game and Fresh Water Fish for distribution.

GAME BREEDING GROUNDS AND REFUGES

The Commission of Game and Fresh Water Fish has well over two million acres of game breeding grounds and refuges under its jurisdiction, and they are playing a major part in the program of protection and restoration.

A game breeding ground is a privately-owned area, closed to hunting by agreement between the Commission of Game and Fresh Water Fish and the owners for periods of five years or longer, or by legislative enactment. It is not exempt from payment of taxes.

The purpose of these game breeding grounds is to provide havens for wildlife, to take the place of the natural havens that animals and birds had in the days before the onrush of civilization put farms, roads and cities in the former wooded areas.

In them game can breed unmolested, and as the maximum carrying capacity of the breeding ground is reached, the game has a tendency to "spill over" into surrounding open shooting territory.

VIOLATION REPORT

VIOLATION	I 6 Months 1/1/39— 6/30/39	II 12 Months 7/1/39— 6/30/40	III 6 Months 7/1/40— 12/31/40
FISH AND FISHING:			
Fishing without a license.....	69	120	60
Possession of undersized fish.....	21	57	55
Taking fish by striking with iron.....	3	....	....
Fishing on bream bed.....	4	3	....
Fishing during closed season.....	31	....	....
Selling fish in closed county.....	2	....	....
Netting in fresh waters.....	34	33	6
Transporting black bass.....	4	2	....
Dynamiting fish.....	10	2	4
Shooting fish.....	4	19	4
Exceeding bag limit on fish.....	2	14	5
Selling fish without license.....	7	15	7
Taking bass with gig.....	4	5	7
Taking bass during closed season.....	....	17	....
Selling black bass.....	5	9	2
Fishing in closed waters.....	....	....	4
Illegal possession of seine and fish.....	....	....	2
Fishing with basket.....	....	....	2
HUNTING AND GAME:			
Hunting without license.....	12	43	59
Taking doves over baited area.....	1	11	....
Taking game during closed season.....	20	....	67
Hunting in breeding grounds.....	13	45	34
Possession of game during closed season..	5	67	7
Discharging firearms on road No. 27.....	1	....	....
Discharging firearms on Tamiami Trail..	1	36	16
Shooting on State Road No. 26.....	....	....	5
Hunting on closed days.....	1	6	6
Hunting deer with headlight.....	1	4	2
Taking non-game birds.....	1	....	....
Running deer with loose dog.....	1	....	....
Exceeding bag limit on game birds.....	....	13	....
Hunting during closed season.....	....	18	4
Killing non-game birds.....	....	10	....
Killing doves after sunset.....	....	11	11
Taking migratory game birds with rifle..	....	3	3
Taking migratory game birds from auto- mobile.....	....	7	9
Possession of firearms in National Forest	....	3	12
Possession of deer with sex removed.....	....	8	1
Possession of gun in breeding ground....	....	....	11

VIOLATION REPORT (Continued)

VIOLATION	I 6 Months 1/1/39— 6/30/39	II 12 Months 7/1/39— 6/30/40	III 6 Months 7/1/40— 12/31/40
Taking migratory non-game birds.....	....	....	14
Taking water fowl from power boat.....	....	....	7
Possession of wood duck.....	....	....	2
Hunting with improper license.....	....	....	2
Transporting more than two days bag of quail.....	....	....	1
Fraudulently obtaining hunting license...	....	....	2
Killing doe deer.....	....	6	2
Failing to check deer.....	....	....	4
TRAPPING			
Trapping without license.....	6	16	7
Trapping during closed season.....	2	7	22
Trapping fish.....	7	11	....
Trapping in breeding grounds.....	....	2	....
Trapping in National Forest.....	....	7	3
Trapping quail.....	....	....	3
Setting traps improperly.....	....	....	2
MISCELLANEOUS			
Selling quail.....	5	....	....
Renting boats without licenses.....	....	3	4
Selling alligator hides in closed county...	....	3	....
Killing alligators in closed county.....	....	....	1
Possession and selling alligator hides in closed counties.....	....	....	1
Making false statement to obtain license...	....	....	1
TOTAL ARRESTS.....	277	637	483
DISPOSITION SUMMARY	215 Convictions	527 Convictions	381 Convictions
	50 Acquittals	74 Acquittals	17 Acquittals
	12 Pending	36 Pending	85 Pending

Quail trapped on breeding ground in Charlotte County for release in open shot—>
over territory.

In the case of quail, which do not travel far, birds are trapped by conservation officers each year, and released in pairs in shot-over open territory immediately after the close of the hunting season, so that the birds may propagate and form coveys during the spring and summer.

This quail-trapping and restocking program is the backbone of the Commission's restoration activity. It permits the release of wild birds, already acclimated to the food and cover types of the region, and habituated to seek shelter from predators.

At the end of the 1939-1940 hunting season, 7640 quail, which had been trapped in game breeding grounds, were released in pairs in nearby open territory.

As the biennium closed, the Commission had jurisdiction over 136 game breeding grounds, containing, as has been said, well over 2,000,000 acres. Eighty of these have been closed by Executive Order of the Commission under Section 4 of the Act creating the Commission, and are not fenced; fifty-six are closed under Section 7 of the Act, and are fenced refuges and breeding grounds. In addition there are 21 game breeding grounds and refuges which have been set up by Legislative Acts.

OTHER GAME RE-STOCKING

In addition to the release of wild birds that have been trapped in the game breeding grounds, the Commission each year has purchased some quail to release in those sections where the breeding grounds have not produced as many birds as in other sections. During the biennium, 1467 quail were purchased for release during the closed season.

Another quail re-stocking activity has been inaugurated, using birds from the Commission's Game and Fish Propagation Area at Blackwater River State Forest, treated in another section of this Report.

FISH HATCHERIES

For years the Commission of Game and Fresh Water Fish has maintained two fish hatcheries, one at Winter Haven, and one at Wewahitchka. In addition, when the Blackwater River





Game and Fish Propagation Area was taken over July 1, 1940, the Commission acquired six rearing ponds which have augmented its fish propagation equipment.

The principal production of these first-named hatcheries has been fingerling largemouth black bass. The Blackwater production has consisted largely of bream fingerlings, raised from fry obtained from the Federal Hatchery at Marianna and from brood fish in the Blackwater ponds. Some bream and speckled perch have also been produced at the Commission's two hatcheries.

The Winter Haven and Wewahitchka hatcheries in 1939 produced 1,066,000 fingerling bass which were used in restocking lakes and streams throughout the State. The 1940 production, of 601,000 fingerling bass, was smaller due to adverse weather conditions during the spawning season.

From the Federal hatchery at Marianna during the two-year period the Commission received 11,572 fingerling bass and 150,064 fingerling bream for distribution; and from the Federal hatchery at Welaka the Commission received 57,415 fingerling bass for distribution during the biennium.

The first season of production at the Blackwater Fish Propagation Area resulted in 440,600 bream which were used in restocking waters of many different counties.

Each year the Commission receives more applications for fish for restocking lakes and streams than it is able to fill, but every effort is made to investigate waters thoroughly and distribute the fish so that those locations best suited will be restocked.

Federal hatcheries, in addition to restocking waters in National Forests and in State Parks, and furnishing fingerlings

to the Commission for distribution, also furnished fish to hatcheries operated in several Counties of Florida by the County Commissioners; and furnished fry to the Commission for rearing at the Blackwater River Fish Propagation Area.

IMPROVING LAKES AND STREAMS

One of the chief activities of the Conservation Officers of the Commission of Game and Fresh Water Fish is the transfer of fish from streams and lakes that are drying up in times of drought to lakes and streams where there is plenty of water. Countless thousands of fish have been saved this way, in every section of the State.

In 1940 Conservation Officers of the Commission supervised the seining of two favorite fishing spots, Lake Trafford in Collier County, and Blue Cypress Lake in Indian River County for roughfish, predatory fish and turtles, thus giving the game fish a chance to increase in numbers. Other lakes have also been seined by the Commission for the removal of these undesirable species.

During the seining of Lake Trafford, in June and July, 1940, the Commission sponsored a hyacinth-killing demonstration by Capt. K. J. Boyd of Tallahassee, who has perfected a spray which would kill the hyacinths in a lake without damaging the fish life, and which is repellent to cattle. The familiar hyacinth has become one of the major problems in fishing waters of the State, for its rapid spread soon completely covers the lakes and streams where it abounds.

BLACKWATER RIVER GAME AND FISH PROPAGATION AREA

Probably the outstanding step taken by the Commission of Game and Fresh Water Fish during the past two years was the assumption of management and operation of the Blackwater River Game and Fish Propagation Area, known popularly as a game farm. It is located in the northerly portions of Santa Rosa and Okaloosa Counties, near Holt.



This area was originally established by the U. S. Resettlement Administration as part of the Federal Government's program of taking over sub-marginal lands. When the Resettlement Administration's work was discontinued, the area was taken over by the U. S. Soil Conservation Service, which turned it over, in turn, to the Florida State Forest and Park Service.

The Forest and Park Service retained control of the complete area under the name of the Blackwater River State Forest, and at the same time, July 1, 1940, leased the game and fish propagation area to the Commission of Game and Fresh Water Fish for administration and operation. The Commission has retained the same superintendent who was in charge of the area for the Resettlement Administration and the Soil Conservation Service.

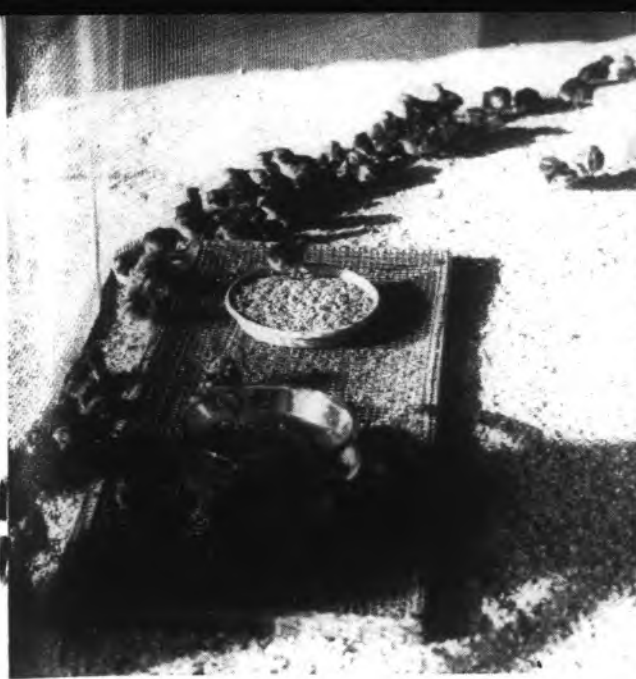
On the area, quail, deer, bass and bream will be produced for state-wide distribution.

QUAIL PRODUCTION

The total production of quail at the Blackwater River Game Farm during the entire 1940 season was 1674 birds. Of this number 644 quail were released before July 1, when the Commission of Game and Fresh Water Fish took over the plant. More than five hundred of these were liberated on the Blackwater River State Forest by the adoption system—these were two- to three-day-old chicks released with wild-trapped, adult cock birds.

Since July, when the Commission started to operate the hatchery, 1030 quail were propagated. Of these, 660 were shipped to the various districts for distribution, 151 were released on Blackwater River State Forest when the quail yard was flooded by heavy rains, 19 were used for Fair exhibits, and 200 were held for breeding purposes.





The season's average fertility was 87 per cent and the average percentage of eggs hatched was 80 per cent, indicating that breeding stock was culled satisfactorily and that incubators were being handled properly.

The original quail stock at the farm was purchased by the Resettlement Administration. The equipment consists of four incubators, five brooder houses, 100 breeding pens and 50 growing pens.

During the laying season—May through August—eggs are taken from the breeding pens and placed in the incubators, each of which has a capacity of 400 eggs. The eggs hatch in 22 days, and after the rearing season gets under way, a hatch is taken off each week. The quail chicks are placed in the brooder houses, where they remain six weeks. Then they are transferred to the growing, or “hardening” pens for another two weeks, bringing them to two months old, ready for release.

The average number of eggs laid per hen in a season is 85; the largest hen laying record during the farm's operation is 131.

During the last two weeks of confined life, in the growing pens, the quail are grouped in numbers of 12 to 15 to form coveys. The birds, thus artificially grouped, become used to each other, and are released as entire coveys, for when so liberated they become settled in their new homes more quickly.

While it is expected that the quail hatchery on the game farm will help maintain the supply of birds for release, the Commission of Game and Fresh Water Fish will continue to depend largely on its policy of trapping wild birds on game breeding grounds for release on shot-over hunting areas. The wild birds have proved much more satisfactory than artificially propagated birds, as they are already accustomed to life in the woods.

DEER CORRAL, OR PASTURE

The deer corral of the propagation area occupies approximately a section of land—640 acres—which is surrounded by

a 10-foot "hog"-wire fence, estimated to be five and a half miles long. Within this enclosure located on hilly pine land, there are several open fields, and 170 acres of swamp land, through which roam an estimated 50 head of deer. The original deer on the area were purchased by the Resettlement Administration. The number of deer is not known definitely because during heavy rains in 1939 a portion of the fence was washed away, and some of the deer are known to have escaped. A deer drive will be necessary before an accurate count of the number of deer now in the corral can be made. Surplus deer will be released in the depleted areas of the state.

More than 15 acres of the corral were planted in oats, rye and Augusta vetch during the fall of 1940 to provide winter forage for the deer. Dry weather retarded planting activities but good stands of all seed planted were obtained, and the deer began to concentrate on the food patches.

FISH HATCHERY

The fish hatchery on the area consists of six two-acre ponds, about five feet deep, supplied with water from Ate's Creek which flows in front of the game farm. During the Resettlement Administration era a dam was constructed across the creek, but this dam was washed out August 16, 1939, during heavy rains. A 23-inch rainfall was measured during an 11-hour period on that date.

When the Soil Conservation Service took over the Forest and the game farm, it rebuilt the dam, providing a concrete spillway, 100 feet wide and 110 feet long. This dam impounds a 23-acre artificial lake from which water flows to the fish ponds by gravity.

This dam was not completed until the date the Commission of Game and Fresh Water Fish took over the area, and such water as was then in the fish ponds was surface and rain water, hence the fish production for 1940 was far below what it had been in the past, or what it is to be expected in the future. A total of 440,600 fingerlings, of which 15,000 were bass and the remainder bream, were delivered from the Blackwater ponds for restocking.

All six of the ponds are fertilized to increase their productivity. In addition, box-like tanks connected by pipes with the ponds are used for raising *daphnia*—a small crustacean, barely visible to the naked eye, which is an important food for small bass. From time to time the *daphnia* are released into the ponds through the connecting pipes. The small bream are fed rolled oats.

COOPERATION

The conservation of Florida's wildlife is sufficiently complex that just one organization cannot achieve all of its purposes without coming in contact with other conservation agencies and interests. For that reason, it is important that these organizations work together in cooperative harmony, in order that the common ends of all the groups can be attained.

During the biennium, the Commission of Game and Fresh Water Fish has worked in cooperation with these other groups, and, it could also be said that these same groups worked in harmony with the Commission. But whichever took the initiative in any branch of the general program, the other party or parties joined in with the common aim in view.

This cooperation has included Federal agencies and branches of government; other State agencies; and private associations and groups. All have been most cooperative; and in turn, the Commission of Game and Fresh Water Fish has endeavored to extend cooperation to all groups which are interested in the conservation of Florida's and the Nation's wildlife resources.

In this section a detailed report on this cooperation will be given, with, at this time, an expression of thanks from the Commission to all individuals and groups who have worked with the Commission on any or all of these projects and endeavors.

U. S. FOREST SERVICE

The Legislature of 1937 enacted a bill which permitted a cooperative agreement to be entered into by the Commission of Game and Fresh Water Fish and the Forest Service of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, affecting the Ocala and the Osceola National Forests, and that part of the Apalachicola Forest in Liberty County.

This agreement was entered into soon after the enabling legislation was passed, and under it a program has been set up which includes reduced seasons and bag limits in the territory

Doe
Deer
at
Black-
water
Deer
Corral



within the areas, control of predators found in excessive numbers, the breeding of game, the planting of stock from National Forests in other States, the replenishing of lakes and streams from Federal fish hatcheries, and the development of various projects in these fields.

Forest Rangers of the U. S. Forest Service are deputized to enforce State game and fish laws in the National Forests, and the Forest Service has provided living quarters in the forest areas for special Conservation Officers assigned to the National Forest by the Commission of Game and Fresh Water Fish.

In 1938 the first supervised deer hunt was held in the Ocala National Forest under this cooperative agreement, and during the biennium for which this report is made the second and third of what are expected to be annual hunts were held. In the first hunt of 1938, 1,144 hunters from 32 of the 67 Counties of Florida participated, and secured 124 buck deer—the limit being one to a hunter.

The following tables tell the story of the 1939 and the 1940 controlled hunts. Figures were supplied by the U. S. Forest Service.



PARTICIPATION OF HUNTERS BY COUNTIES AND STATES

TOP 15 COUNTIES IN 1939

Marion.....	327	Putnam.....	63
Duval.....	176	St. Johns.....	48
Lake.....	154	Seminole.....	41
Volusia.....	152	Sumter.....	36
Polk.....	119	Bradford.....	28
Orange.....	104	Baker.....	25
Alachua.....	92	Pinellas.....	19
Hillsborough.....	65		

OUT OF STATE HUNTERS from Georgia, Alabama, Michigan,
New York, Indiana and Kentucky..... 15

TOP 15 COUNTIES IN 1940

Marion.....	399	Putnam.....	91
Lake.....	245	Seminole.....	58
Duval.....	215	Pinellas.....	52
Volusia.....	204	Sumter.....	48
Polk.....	166	St. Johns.....	48
Orange.....	147	Baker.....	36
Hillsborough.....	144	Bradford.....	23
Alachua.....	96		

Forty-seven of 67 counties represented.

OUT OF STATE HUNTERS: Georgia, 10; South Carolina, Missis-
sippi, Illinois, Michigan and Connecticut, 1 each..... Total 15

REPORT ON SMALL GAME TAKEN DURING PERIOD OF HUNT

	Gray Squirrel	Fox Squirrel	Quail	Migratory Waterfowl
1938.....	(No hunting was permitted for game other than deer)			
1939.....	5141	158	316	50
1940.....	3268	233	200	30

(These reports lack accuracy, for they are made voluntarily by the hunters at the checking stations, and are not required.)

TABLE OF ANTLER POINTS ON BUCKS TAKEN IN 1939 AND 1940

POINTS	1939	1940
Spikes.....	113	114
3-Point.....	13	14
4-Point.....	30	104
5-Point.....	19	20
6-Point.....	42	49
7-Point.....	.....	19
8-Point.....	45	57
9-Point.....	.....	12
10-Point.....	5	8
11-Point.....	1	2
12-Point.....	1	1
14-Point.....	1	.....

These tables tell some of the story of the hunts, but not all. In 1939 there were 1603 hunters, who bagged 303 bucks—approximately one in every five shooters getting a deer. In 1940, however, with a very dry season, which handicapped the dogs, there were 2173 hunters, who bagged 330 bucks, a ratio, this time, of one hunter in every seven being successful. In both years, of course, nearly all the hunters were from Florida, the number of non-residents being 14 in 1939 and 15 in 1940.

The Conservation Officers of the Commission of Game and Fresh Water Fish are stationed permanently within the limits of the game management area of the Ocala National Forest. During the 1939 hunt, nine additional Conservation Officers were stationed there, and in 1940, the Commission assigned 10 additional men to duty during the duration of the hunt.

The hunt is conducted on the wildlife management area of the Ocala National Forest, an area which consists of 286,200 acres. This area surrounds the Ocala National Forest Game Refuge of 78,000 acres, and together with the Refuge comprises 65 per cent of the Forest area. In the Forest boundaries, outside of the Wildlife Management Area there are 155,700 acres, open to regular hunting. In this latter area, during the 1940 deer hunting season, 155 deer were taken under regular State regulations, showing that the game on the management area is spreading to outside lands, in accordance with expectations.

The Ocala National Forest is the only area in the State under jurisdiction of the U. S. Forest Service where such hunts are held. It is hoped that in the near future the stock of wildlife will have been built up enough on the Apalachicola and Osceola game management areas that similar hunts may be held, if not for deer, at least for small game.

After a deer is killed on the wildlife management area at the Ocala National Forest, the successful hunter is through hunting there for the season. When he leaves the Forest the checking officer records the kill on the hunter's permit (which he purchased for two dollars from the Forest Ranger, in addition to his hunting license) notes the approximate weight of the deer, its antlers, and any evidence of disease or parasites.



Alligator in Highlands Hammock State Park.

STATE FOREST AND PARK SERVICE

The Commission of Game and Fresh Water Fish has maintained consistent friendly relations with the Florida State Forest and Park Service, which has both State Parks and State Forests under its jurisdiction.

By arrangement with the Forest and Park Service, the Commission has taken over the control and operation of the Blackwater River Game and Fish Propagation Area in the Blackwater River State Forest, and has worked with the Service in the conservation and propagation of wildlife on the State Park areas.

For several years the Commission of Game and Fresh Water Fish and the Florida Forest and Park Service have cooperated in a program of deer propagation at the Highlands Hammock State Park, near Sebring, and surplus deer from this park are to be released, according to present plans, on the new Myakka River State Park, near Sarasota. Both of these Parks are designated as game refuges.

One of the forward steps which has been taken has been the controlled burning agreement which has been entered into by the Commission of Game and Fresh Water Fish, the Florida Forest and Park Service and the National Forests of the U. S. Forest Service, in which a program of controlled burning, properly studied, supervised and regulated on lands intended primarily for game production has been approved.

UNITED STATES ARMY

The United States Army and the War Department are not primarily conservation agencies, and for that reason it is a little unusual to find them so listed.

But an experiment has been carried out successfully in Florida, through cooperation of the Army and the Commission of Game and Fresh Water Fish, which shows conclusively that all of the Nation's needs and programs, including defense activities, can, with thought and care, be included in a conservation program.

Maj. W. A. Maxwell, commanding officer at Eglin Field Military Reservation, which is a practice bombing field in conjunction with the Army Air Corps Specialized Bombing School, in cooperation with Army authorities, his staff, and the Commission of Game and Fresh Water Fish, worked out a program for the 1940-1941 season which was hailed as a success by all concerned.

The Eglin Field Military Reservation is the former Choctawhatchee National Forest, and until the Army took it over, was under the control of the U. S. Forest Service. Forestry practices are still continued, and a stronger emphasis than ever is being placed on wildlife management, especially predator control.

During the experiment deer hunting season, in 1941, 1181 deer hunting permits were issued to hunters from 18 counties by the military authorities, as follows:

Okaloosa.....	365	Calhoun.....	8
Escambia.....	279	Leon.....	5
Walton.....	212	Duval.....	4
Santa Rosa.....	179	Washington.....	4
Bay.....	74	Wakulla.....	3
Jackson.....	22	Gulf.....	2
Holmes.....	8		

Indian River, Alachua, Taylor, Hillsborough, Columbia, 1 each;
out of state hunters as follows: Alabama, 8; Georgia, 2; Illinois, 1.

These hunters reported killing 121 buck deer, approximately one in every 10 hunters being successful. This is a similar proportion to that reported for the same season on the Ocala National Forest Game Management Area, although hunting was permitted every day at the Eglin Field Reservation, and the Ocala area has a staggered—hunting prohibited Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays—hunting season.

So far as is known, this is the only military reservation in the country which is open to the general public for hunting. Most large military posts, if hunting is allowed at all, permit only military personnel to enjoy this privilege: Fort Bragg, North Carolina, and Fort Benning, Georgia, are two where this is done.

According to Major Maxwell the program used during the 1940-41 season was so successful, and the cooperation extended by the Commission of Game and Fresh Water Fish and the sportsmen was so complete that the same program will be continued with but minor variations.

U. S. FOREST SERVICE

Another field of cooperation of the U. S. Forest Service and the Commission of Game and Fresh Water Fish has been in the fisheries and developments being conducted on the wildlife management area of the Ocala National Forest, through the agreement with the Commission, the Forest Service, and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. More than 60 lakes, totalling 21,000 acres are included in the research and development program, and fish management in Florida is reaching a point which it has never reached before.

The U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, through cooperative agreement with the U. S. Forest Service, is charged with responsibility of conducting the research necessary to determine the principles upon which the fishery management will be based, and to act in an advisory capacity in technical management problems.

The Commission of Game and Fresh Water Fish is charged with the responsibility of law enforcement and cooperatively administering the wildlife program with the United States Forest Service. In addition to these agencies, the Civilian Conservation Corps has contributed both time and effort to conducting this research.

Under these agencies, the various lakes were mapped showing contours, vegetation types, types of bottom, open water, boat landings, etc. With one survey crew working full time and another working part time, this job alone took over nine months to complete. After a lake was mapped, seines and gill nets were selected and operated at proper locations to determine roughly the number and species of the fish population. The seine and net catches were supplemented with observations made by motor boat and bright lights at night.

Following these projects the Fish and Wildlife Service biologists investigated food conditions in the different types of vegetation, on the different kinds of lake bottoms, made chemical tests of the water and checked on the number and species of forage minnows.

Fish stocking was started in the summer of 1938, followed by more stocking in 1939 and 1940. Each spring test seining, night observations and other checks were made to evaluate the survival and amount of growth made by fish planted the previous year. The results from the first two years of planting was far above expectations. The first fish stocked in 1938 have now reached legal size and very marked improvement in catches has resulted where this stocking was done.

It is interesting to note that the 1938 plantings consisted of only 25,000 bass and 14,000 panfish, distributed in 14 lakes. Yet, a very marked improvement in fishing has been noted in spite of the wide distribution. The 1939 stocking consisted of 111,600 bass and 231,000 panfish, but few of these will reach legal size before the 1941 season is over. The 1940 crop of fingerling are now being hauled from the fish hatchery at Welaka, Florida, and distributed in the various lakes and ponds.

By February 15, the time the fishing season closes on the Wildlife Management Area, over 258,600 fingerling bass 4 inches to 6 inches in length, and 375,400 bream, 3 inches to 5 inches in length, and 82,800 speckled perch will have been planted. By the end of the 1941 season an average of approximately 50 bass, bream and speckled perch will have been

planted per acre in the waters under management. This will total over 850,000 and will complete the preliminary stocking program.

Stocking after 1941 will be based on frequent examinations of the waters involved, the amount of fishing, and information still incomplete on the amount of fish an acre of lake water can support.

No bass were placed in lakes of less than 30 acres. In lakes where aquatic vegetation was found to be scarce, no bass were planted unless the lake had an area of at least 100 acres. However, the small ponds and lakes were stocked with various species of bream and speckled perch.

Among other activities carried on by the Forest Service during the past three years, have been the improvement of boat landings, roads and approaches leading to the lakes; the installation of lake name and direction signs; the maintenance of a field library and outdoor aquarium at the Juniper Springs Recreation Area, and the removal of over three tons of garfish from badly infested waters. In addition, the Forest Service and State Commission personnel have given many talks and made hundreds of contacts soliciting interest and cooperation of the general public in the wildlife program.

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service has carried on an extensive research program since July, 1938; reared the fish for stocking purposes, given invaluable assistance and advice in formulating plans; conducted experiments in twenty small experimental lakes and ponds at the National Forest. Its most valuable contribution will be the determination of proper fish management practices in Florida waters and the demonstration of those practices.

Since it was believed that the maintenance of good fishing would be impractical and probably impossible for any great length of time if regular State regulations were permitted, the Florida Commission of Game and Fresh Water Fish, at the suggestion of technicians from all three cooperating agencies, made further restrictions on creel limits and advanced the beginning of the closed season on bass to February 15. This was deemed necessary as it was found that during some years a great majority of the bass were on the spawning beds before the regular State law closed the season. The following regulations are therefore in effect on the Ocala Wildlife Management Area:

Fishing not permitted between February 15 and May 20.

CREEL LIMITS

Bass	8
Speckled Perch (Crappie)	15
Other sunfish (panfish) bream, such as shell-cracker, redbreast bream, warmouth, stump-knockers, etc.	15
Pike, jack, pickerel	10
Daily creel limit of any and all species	15

These regulations are made specifically for conditions in the Ocala Wildlife Management Area, where more intensive stocking and more intensive protection and, we hope, far better fishing will occur.



Canada Geese at a Wildlife Refuge.

U. S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Seven years ago the plight of migratory waterfowl was attracting the attention of conservationists throughout the nation, in fact all over the continent of North America. From countless hundreds of millions, the number of ducks and geese had fallen to an estimated 30,000,000, and indications were that the number would decrease rapidly, until waterfowl were no longer among the extant species.

It was at this point that the Bureau of Biological Survey, now incorporated into the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the State game departments, and the game authorities of Can-

ada, Mexico, and other North American countries where migratory waterfowl touch in their annual migrations combined forces, and through restrictive legislation were able to handle the hunting seasons, bag limits, and formulate other rules which stopped the slaughter and gave the wildfowl a chance to recuperate through Nature's aid. In addition, the Bureau of Biological Survey speeded up its program of establishing migratory waterfowl refuges, now known as National Wildlife Refuges, until now there are millions of acres of land throughout the country designed for the sole purpose of furnishing resting or nesting places for ducks, geese and their relatives.

This program has been so successful that the Federal authorities, after conferring with State agencies, lengthened the waterfowl hunting season from its 1938 and 1939 stretch of 45 days to 60 days in 1940, from November 2 through December 31, inclusive. Duck population increases, according to the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, made this extension possible. Mourning dove and Canada goose limits were reduced; duck limits were kept the same, and possession limits on ducks were increased.

At present Florida contains 17 National Wildlife Refuges, containing a total of 105,390 acres. Conservation Officers of the Commission of Game and Fresh Water Fish work in close conjunction with the staff on the larger Refuges in protecting and conserving wildlife in the areas.

The list of National Wildlife Refuges in the State, the date of their establishment, the County in which they are located, and the area which they cover, is on the following page.

FLORIDA WILDLIFE FEDERATION

During the past two-year period, sportsmen and conservationists of Florida succeeded in completing the establishment of an organization which seems destined to be one of the greatest forces for conservation of the State's wildlife.

This is the Florida Wildlife Federation, an organization of sportsmen's and conservation organizations, with State-wide scope, and a seriousness and singleness of purpose which augurs well for its success.

The Federation held its annual convention in Orlando in 1939, and in Tampa in 1940 the growth of the movement was almost unbelievable. Conservationists, sportsmen, wildlife enthusiasts, educators, from all over the State were at the 1940 convention, and gave evidence by their interest and their efforts that they intended to become an increasingly important factor in the conservation movement. The State Federation

NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGES IN FLORIDA

NAME	ESTABLISHED	COUNTY	ACRES
Mantanzas	August 10, 1927. . . .	St. Johns.	267
Brevard.	October 21, 1925. . . .	Volusia.	12
Pelican Island.	March 14, 1903. . . .	Indian River. . . .	15
Key West.	August 8, 1908. . . .	Monroe.	1215
Great White Heron.	October 27, 1938. . . .	Monroe.	1000
Matlacha Pass.	September 26, 1908. . . .	Lee.	10
Pine Island.	September 15, 1908. . . .	Lee.	31
Caloosahatchee.	July 1, 1920.	Lee.	40
Island Bay.	October 23, 1908. . . .	Charlotte.	11,100
Palma Sola.	September 26, 1908. . . .	Manatee.	2
Passage Key.	October 10, 1905. . . .	Manatee.	36
Ft. DeSoto.	(Executive Order Pending)	Hillsborough. . . .	421
Indian Key.	February 10, 1906. . . .	Pinellas.	191
Anclote.	April 5, 1939.	Pinellas and Pasco.	197
Chinsegut.	1932.	Hernando.	2033
Cedar Keys.	July 16, 1929.	Levy.	379
St. Marks.	October 31, 1931. . . .	Jefferson, Taylor and Wakulla.	88,441

has become affiliated with the National Wildlife Federation, and is planning to carry out the National organization's programs and policies.

The Commission of Game and Fresh Water Fish and the Florida Wildlife Federation are closely allied by reason of singleness of purpose, and it is expected that the close cooperation of the two agencies will effect a real forward step in the progress of wildlife conservation.

Officers for 1940-1941 of the Florida Wildlife Federation are as follows:

President, Louis Morris, Monticello; Executive Secretary, Joe M. Carr, Monticello; Treasurer, C. D. Hasbrouck, Tallahassee; vice presidents (from the five Congressional Districts): Paul Henderson, Lakeland; Rhydon Latham, Jacksonville; L. A. Wesson, Tallahassee; Don McCarthy, Miami Beach; Merlin Mitchell, Orlando. Headquarters of the Federation have been established at Monticello.

FLORIDA AUDUBON SOCIETY

The oldest conservation organization in the State is the Florida Audubon Society, which in 1940 completed 40 years of crusading on behalf of Florida's birdlife. For many years, according to R. J. Longstreet, editor of the Society's publication, *The Florida Naturalist*, and past president of the Society, the group was the only voice raised in Florida for the protection of birds and animals. In 1901 through its efforts legislation was adopted which offered protection to wild birds, whether game birds or not.

As at present operating, the Florida Audubon Society, co-operating as always with the National Association of Audubon Societies, protects many rookeries in various parts of the State, maintains a lecturer in the public schools; publishes a quarterly magazine devoted to the natural history of Florida, and "may safely be said to be the most influential conservation organization in this State and indeed in the entire South."

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF AUDUBON SOCIETIES

Equally interested with the State group in the protection of Florida bird-life is the National Association of Audubon Societies, which has led the fight against the slaughter of plumaged birds in years gone by, and has maintained wardens to study and guard the rookeries of Florida's birds.

Wardens of the Audubon Society hold honorary commissions as Conservation Officers of the Commission of Game and Fresh Water Fish, and the regular Conservation Officers of the Commission work with the Audubon wardens in their protective and investigating work.

Great credit is due the National Audubon Society for its quiet but effective work in restoring and protecting areas vital to the existence of Florida's herons, egrets, and other birds.

OTHER COOPERATIVE ACTIVITIES

At various times during the past two-year period the Commission of Game and Fresh Water Fish has cooperated with other State Departments, including the State Department of Education, the State Planning Board; with other groups, such as the Florida Land Use Planning Committee, the U. S. Soil Conservation Service; the Agricultural Extension Division; the vocational agricultural teachers of the State; and other groups and individuals too numerous to mention.

Representatives of the Commission have attended the National Wildlife Conferences, both to report on Florida's conservation activities, and to bring back ideas as to what is being accomplished in our sister States.

EDUCATION AND PUBLICITY

FLORIDA GAME AND FISH

The Commission of Game and Fresh Water Fish for some time has felt the need of a publication to enable it to reach conservationists, sportsmen, and the general public, in some methodical manner, in order to acquaint them with the problems and needs of Florida's wildlife, and to let them know of the activities of the Commission.

Such a publication was started in March, 1940, under the name of **FLORIDA GAME AND FISH**. It is a 16-page magazine, 6 by 9 inches in size, published monthly, and containing illustrated stories, reports and information on the work of the Commission and its field force, and answers to questions on wildlife topics.

The popularity of the publication has been most gratifying to the Commission. Starting with a prepared mailing list of about 700, the list has grown, by request, to 3000, and names are added to the mailing list at the rate of about 100 a month. The magazine goes to every section of the State.

Laudatory comments have been received from State and County officials, from newspapers, from sportsmen, and from Federal and State game departments and nationally-known outdoors writers, all of whom seem to agree that **FLORIDA GAME AND FISH** is interesting, informative and valuable.

The Commission hopes to extend its mailing list, month by month, until all interested sportsmen and conservationists in the State are reached. The magazine is issued free of charge as a major activity of the informational and educational program of the Commission.



4-H WILDLIFE CAMPS

The game technician of the Commission of Game and Fresh Water Fish was a member of the instructional staff at the two 4-H Club State Wildlife Camps held during the biennium. The 1939 camp was held at Camp Roosevelt at Ocala, and the 1940 camp was held at the regular 4-H camp at Cherry Lake, in Madison County. Boys from every section of the State, who had completed their 4-H wildlife investigation project, attended the camp, which was made possible through the sponsorship of Mr. Charles Horn, president of the Federal Cart-ridge Company. The camps were in charge of Mr. R. W. Blacklock, State Boys Club Director of the Agricultural Extension Service.

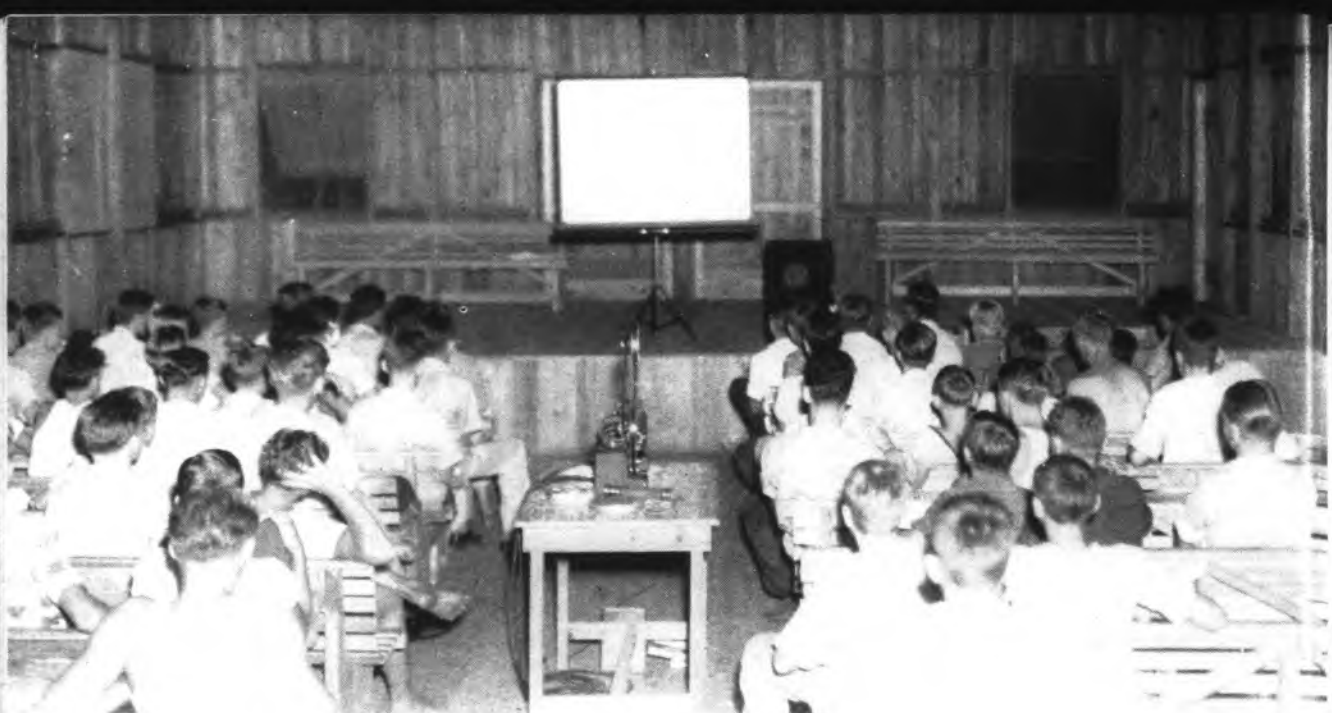
In 1940 a Negro boys wildlife camp was held at Milwaukee Springs, near Gainesville, with the Commission's game technician participating in the day's program.



Palm Beach Juniors Seine Drought-Affected Waters.

JUNIOR CONSERVATION GROUPS

In several counties of the State, notably Columbia, Hamilton, and Palm Beach, junior conservation clubs have been organized under the sponsorship of Conservation Officers or under the auspices of adult conservation or wildlife groups. While these organizations are yet in their infancy, the Commission feels that they offer a tremendous opportunity for education and building up future support of the State's conservation program.



"OUR HERITAGE"

One of the features of the Commission's program of information and education is the three-reel 16 mm. sound motion picture, "Our Heritage," filmed for the Commission by David Newell, noted sportsman and out-of-doors writer. Three prints of this picture are available at present, and the thousands of adults and children who have seen and heard its message have praised it as one of the most effective presentations of Florida's wildlife and its needs.

The picture has been shown to conservation groups, civic and service clubs and to schools, both in assemblies and in the classroom. The Commission has a sound projector and screen which are loaned to those groups which do not have equipment available.

Thousands of persons have seen the film and have absorbed, through the medium of both eye and ear, the story of Florida's need of conserving its wildlife.

The film does not just teach a lesson. The inclusion of scenes of a panther hunt and a bobcat hunt, containing thrills for every lover of the out-of-doors, makes the picture entertaining as well as instructive, and helps hold the attention of young and old from start to finish.

STATE FAIR EXHIBITS

Each year the Commission of Game and Fresh Water Fish presents an exhibit of Florida's wildlife resources at the State Fair held at Tampa early in February. The Fair Association has made available to the Commission the major part of a large permanent building, equipped with 20 small and two large fish tanks, provided with running water. In these tanks hundreds of fish, representing most fresh water species, are displayed for the information and education of both residents and tourists. In adjacent cages, game animals and birds are

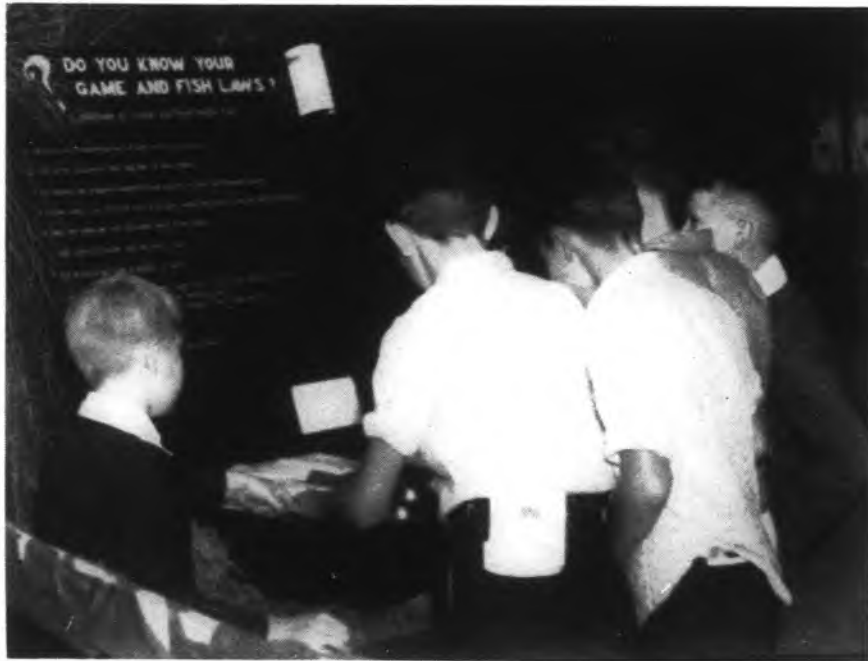
displayed, and mounted representative Florida pond and shore birds are exhibited in several large glass show cases. The birds, property of the Fair Association, are made available to the Commission for its display each year.

OTHER FAIR EXHIBITS

In addition to the exhibit at the State Fair, the Commission during the biennium participated in several county and sectional fairs and festivals by placing exhibits therein; and at the close of the two-year period had inaugurated a program of broadened participation, which would include fairs in every section of the State. This program is expected to be much further expanded in the fair season of the fall, winter and spring of 1941-1942, as it is one of the best methods of making personal contacts in conservation information and education.

A novel feature of the Commission's exhibit at several county fairs was a "quiz board," a device designed and built by the Commission's game technician. This board displayed 10 questions on Florida's game and fish laws which could be answered by pressing a button. If the button for the right answer was





The "Quizboard."

pressed, a bell rang; but dead silence greeted an incorrect answer. The questions dealt with bag, season and length limits and other topics of general interest to sportsmen and conservationists.

INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

During the biennium, the Executive Secretary of the Commission of Game and Fresh Water Fish has sent out hundreds and thousands of copies of the Commission's various publications, in answer to requests from every part of the State, and to interested persons in other States.

Included in this material have been the following publications:

Conservation of Florida's Wildlife Resources, a 44-page Florida School Bulletin, issued in February, 1939, by the State Department of Education in collaboration with the Commission of Game and Fresh Water Fish.

Florida Sport Fishing, a two-color, illustrated folder telling what to fish for and where. A summary of fresh water fish laws is included in this folder.

Florida Birds, a check-list of birds occurring in the State, prepared from Arthur H. Howell's masterly *Florida Bird Life*, published by the former Department of Game and Fresh Water

Fish, and considered the authoritative work on Florida ornithology.

Laws of Florida Relating to Game, and Non-Game Birds, Animals and Fresh Water Fish, 1939, which includes all General and Special Laws in effect, including those passed by the State Legislature at its 1939 session.

Why Do We Have Fish and Game Laws?, a 4-page pamphlet which explains the reasons behind some of the State's wildlife legislation.

Summary of State and Federal Hunting Regulations, published several months prior to the opening of the hunting season each year.

Biennial Reports—both of the Biennial Reports made by the Commission of Game and Fresh Water Fish since its creation in 1935 have been available to the public on request.

Other publications are planned during the years 1941-1943.

WILDLIFE RESTORATION WEEK

In cooperation with the National Wildlife Federation, and in keeping with the Governor's proclamation of National Wildlife Restoration Week, March 17-23, 1940, the Commission of Game and Fresh Water Fish sent material for school programs and class-room discussions to every white and colored school in the State. This material was prepared in the office of the Executive Secretary, and was approved by the office of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction. The initial issue of **FLORIDA GAME AND FISH**, the Commission's monthly publication, was published in connection with the observance of 1940's Florida Wildlife Restoration Week.

RADIO PROGRAMS

The Executive Secretary, the game technician, and several Conservation Officers of the Commission have made radio broadcasts at different times during the two-year period. One of these broadcasts was in conjunction with a regular monthly program of the Future Farmers of America on Station WRUF, Gainesville, and rebroadcast by means of transcription over six other Florida stations.

NEWS STORIES AND OTHER PUBLICITY

In February, 1940, the Commission added an information and education director to its staff to edit the then-projected publication, **FLORIDA GAME AND FISH**, to prepare informational materials, and to send news releases to newspapers of the State. The news releases thus prepared have been used extensively in both daily and weekly newspapers in every section of Florida, and have aided in familiarizing the general public with the work of the Commission. In addition to news stories, reports for other conservation groups and civic organizations, and speeches for various occasions have been prepared.

Miscellaneous

MEETINGS OF THE COMMISSION

The Commission of Game and Fresh Water Fish during the biennium held the following quarterly and called meetings. Budgets for the coming six-months' periods were adopted at the called meetings. Quarterly meetings, as required by statute, were held at Tallahassee.

QUARTERLY	CALLED	
	Date	Place
March 13, 1939 June 26, 1939	February 6, 1939	Tampa
September 18, 1939 December 11, 1939	July 24, 1939	Pensacola
April 22, 1940 June 24, 1940	February 5, 1940	Miami
September 9, 1940 December 16, 1940	July 29, 1940	Miami

FEDERAL AID-TO-WILDLIFE

Interest of the Federal government in conservation, which developed so extensively during the past decade, was exemplified in the passage of the Federal Aid-to-Wildlife Act, also called the Pittman-Robertson Act, by Congress in 1937. The Act authorizes an appropriation for a wildlife restoration program, with funds provided by the 10 percent excise tax on sporting arms and ammunition.

The fund is distributed to the States on a basis of area and number of hunting licenses sold annually. The State game departments contribute one-fourth of the cost of a project; Federal funds provide the remainder.

At present Florida is one of the four States in the country which is not participating in this restoration program, the others being Georgia, Montana and Nevada.

Plans were made for participation of Florida in the program by the Commission, but the Governor's veto of the required assent legislation, after being passed by the State Legislature in 1939, put a stop to the program, which is expected to be resumed this year.

The Fish and Wildlife Service of the U. S. Department of the Interior, which administers the program, has ruled that Florida can still qualify under the Act if the required assent legislation is passed at the 1941 session of the State Legislature.

Pending in Congress is the Buck Bill, which would provide for a similar program of fish restoration, with funds derived from a tax on fishing tackle. This program would be administered similarly and in conjunction with the present Federal Aid-to-Wildlife program.

HUNTING ACCIDENTS

One of the reports that comes into the office of the Executive Secretary of the Commission of Game and Fresh Water Fish at the end of each hunting season is the Conservation Officers' record of the number of hunting accidents, here listed for information and reference. In the 1938-1939 hunting season there were 16 accidents, five of them fatal. Of the others, eight were minor and three serious.

In the 1939-1940 season the number of accidents increased to 29, of which seven were fatal. Four of the others were serious, and 18 minor.

SOURCES OF REVENUE **During Biennium Ending June 30, 1940**

CLASSIFIED LIST OF LICENSES SOLD

	PRICE	FISCAL YEAR Ending June 30, 1939		FISCAL YEAR Ending June 30, 1940	
		Number Issued	Amount	Number Issued	Amount
FISHING LICENSES					
Series A—Resident State.....	\$2.00	15,315	\$30,630.00	16,535	\$33,070.00
Series B—Non-Resident State....	5.00	4,997	24,985.00	5,395	27,015.00
Series C—Non-Resident 3-Day Trip.....	1.50	8,060	12,090.00	8,913	17,826.00
(Price \$2.00 in 1939-40)					
TOTAL.....		28,372	\$67,705.00	30,843	\$77,911.00
HUNTING LICENSES					
Series I—Resident County.....	\$1.00	39,686	\$39,686.00	38,650	\$38,650.00
Series J—Resident County, Other than Home.....	3.00	429	1,287.00	440	1,320.00
Series K—Resident State.....	5.00	17,037	85,185.00	17,157	85,785.00
Series L—Non-Resident.....	25.00	168	4,200.00	161	4,025.00
Series M—Non-Resident 10-Day Trip.....	10.00	590	5,900.00	646	6,460.00
Series M-1—Non-Resident 3,000- Acre Owner.....	10.00	13	130.00	18	180.00
Alien License.....	50.00	2	100.00	None	None
TOTAL.....		57,925	\$136,488.00	57,072	\$136,420.00
TRAPPING LICENSES					
Series N—Resident.....	\$3.00	698	\$ 2,094.00	1,030	\$3,090.00
Series O—Non-Resident County..	25.00	4	100.00	4	100.00
Series P—Resident State.....	25.00	None	.....	1	25.00
Series Q—Resident Other than Home County.....	10.00	7	70.00	14	140.00
TOTALS.....		709	\$ 2,264.00	1,049	\$ 3,355.00
TOTAL LICENSE SALES.....					
		87,006	\$206,457.00	88,964	\$217,686.00

COMMISSION
OF
GAME AND FRESH WATER FISH

STATEMENT OF
RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

July 1, 1938 to June 30, 1939

RECEIPTS			
Balance on hand June 30, 1938...			\$ 59,814.32
Hunting Licenses.....	\$136,473.00		
Fishing Licenses.....	67,517.50		
Trapping Licenses.....	2,273.00	\$206,263.50	
COMMERCIAL LICENSES			
Resident Retail Fish Dealers.....	\$ 1,900.00		
Wholesale Fish Dealers.....	600.00		
Commercial Boat.....	269.30		
Boat for Hire.....	1,599.00		
Wholesale Fur Dealers and Agents.....	595.00		
Local Fur Dealer or Buyer.....	120.00		
Game Farm.....	100.00		
Guide.....	90.00	\$ 5,273.30	
MISCELLANEOUS			
U.S. Forest Permits.....	\$ 1,128.00		
Court Costs.....	2,721.42		
Confiscated Nets.....	117.88		
Confiscated Furs and Hides.....	1.35		
Previous Year's Licenses.....	2,757.00	\$ 6,725.65	\$218,262.45
Sale of Old Equipment.....	25.00	25.00	25.00
			\$278,101.77
DISBURSEMENTS			
ADMINISTRATION			
Office Salaries.....	\$ 9,450.00		
Traveling, Executive Secretary.....	1,194.45		
Traveling, Commissioners.....	1,385.31		
Special Expense.....	235.00		
Miscellaneous.....	1,110.94		
Office Supplies.....	387.90		
Postage, Telephone, Telegraph....	1,278.03		
Printing and Stationery.....	2,532.78		
Premium on Bonds.....	540.00		
Delegate to Wildlife Conference...	110.05	\$ 18,224.46	

FIELD EXPENSE			
Salaries, Conservation Officers.....	\$105,311.44		
Traveling, Conservation Officers..	71,364.48		
Legal Expense.....	1,072.25		
Miscellaneous Field.....	2,257.39		
Premium on Compensation Insurance.....	2,359.52		
Equipment Purchased.....	1,132.03		
Maintenance of Equipment.....	917.02		
Rewards Paid.....	725.00		
Restocking.....	3,434.04	188,573.17	
Pittman-Robertson.....	421.04	421.04	
EDUCATION			
Salaries.....	\$ 1,800.00		
Traveling.....	82.40		
Miscellaneous.....	361.23		
Moving Picture.....	1,112.50		
Fair Expense.....	768.62	\$ 4,124.75	
HATCHERIES			
Wewahitchka Hatchery—			
Payment on Hatchery.....	\$ 1,000.00		
Salaries.....	2,177.50		
Labor.....	212.75		
Light and Power.....	42.00		
Supplies.....	120.52		
Repairs to Equipment.....	63.79		
Restocking.....	257.25		
Truck Hire.....	194.32		
Equipment Purchased.....	55.95		
Gas and Oil.....	178.53		
Construction.....	58.00	4,360.61	
Winter Haven Hatchery—			
Salaries.....	\$ 1,500.00		
Traveling.....	374.20		
Labor.....	1,831.25		
Restocking.....	173.42		
Supplies.....	433.61		
Truck Operations.....	811.58		
Gas and Oil.....	895.83		
Insurance on Trucks.....	85.65	\$ 6,105.54	\$221,809.57
Refund.....		5.00	5.00
			\$221,814.57

CASH ACCOUNT			
Balance in State Treasury.....	\$ 35,451.99		
Balance in Lewis State Bank.....	20,361.71		
Due from County Judges.....	119.50		
Due from Bureau of Biological Survey for Pittman-Robertson..	354.00	\$ 56,287.20	\$ 56,287.20
			\$278,101.77

COMMISSION OF GAME AND FRESH WATER FISH

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

July 1st, 1939, to June 30th, 1940

RECEIPTS

Balance on Hand June 30, 1939.....		\$ 56,287.20
Hunting Licenses.....	\$136,004.00	
Fishing Licenses.....	77,035.00	
Trapping Licenses.....	3,314.00	
U.S. Forest Permits.....	1,590.00	\$217,943.00

COMMERCIAL LICENSES

Resident Retail Fish Dealers.....	\$ 1,745.03	
Wholesale Fish Dealers.....	557.23	
Commercial Boat.....	260.04	
Boat for Hire.....	1,856.25	
Wholesale Fur Dealers and Agents.....	712.00	
Local Fur Dealers.....	143.28	
Game Farm.....	84.14	
Guide.....	160.00	
Miscellaneous.....	32.00	\$ 5,549.97

Court Costs.....	\$ 3,293.25	
Sales of Old Equipment.....	74.00	
Confiscated Nets.....	143.90	
Confiscated Fish.....	7.60	
Confiscated Furs and Hides.....	51.60	
Previous Years Licenses.....	425.50	
County Judge's Credit.....	102.00	\$ 4,097.85

\$283,878.02

DISBURSEMENTS

ADMINISTRATION

Office Salaries.....	\$ 9,700.00	
Traveling Executive Secretary.....	1,243.80	
Traveling Commissioners.....	1,286.97	
Delegates to Conventions.....	182.30	
Special Expense.....	29.60	
Miscellaneous.....	1,206.05	
Office Supplies.....	361.09	
Postage, Telephone, Telegraph.....	1,268.39	
Printing and Stationery.....	2,999.86	
Premium on Bonds.....	515.00	\$ 18,783.46

FIELD EXPENSE			
Salaries, Conservation Officers...	\$105,950.00		
Traveling, Conservation Officers...	73,845.95		
Legal Expense.....	493.18		
Miscellaneous Field.....	1,847.29		
Premium on Compensation Insurance.....	2,118.65		
Equipment Purchased.....	561.23		
Maintenance of Equipment.....	493.15		
Rewards Paid.....	550.00		
Restocking.....	648.50	\$186,507.95	
EDUCATION			
Salaries.....	\$ 738.72		
Traveling.....	35.12		
Miscellaneous.....	58.23		
Moving Pictures.....	80.73		
Fair Expense.....	71.06	\$ 983.86	
GAME TECHNICIAN			
Salary.....	\$ 2,400.00		
Traveling.....	53.59		
Auto Maintenance.....	20.80	2,474.39	
HATCHERIES			
Wewahitchka Hatchery—			
Final Payment on Hatchery...	\$ 2,000.00		
Salaries.....	1,056.75		
Labor.....	41.75		
Traveling.....	25.00		
Light and Power.....	48.50		
Supplies.....	42.37		
Truck Hire.....	72.40		
Repairs of Equipment.....	25.00		
Equipment Purchased.....	62.05		
Gas and Oil.....	22.27	\$ 3,396.09	
Winter Haven Hatchery:			
Salaries.....	\$ 1,610.00		
Traveling.....	233.78		
Labor.....	1,680.00		
Restocking.....	621.00		
Supplies.....	218.69		
Truck Operations.....	275.25		
Gas and Oil.....	747.32		
Truck Purchased.....	680.00		
Insurance on Truck.....	96.90	\$ 6,162.94	\$218,308.69

Relief of E. L. Smith (Acts 1939) ..	\$ 900.00		
Refunds	20.66	.....	\$ 920.66
CASH ACCOUNT			
Balance in State Treasury	\$ 59,632.64		
Balance in Lewis State Bank	4,840.98		
Due from Bureau of Biological Survey for Pittman-Robertson ..	175.05	\$ 64,648.67	\$ 64,648.67
			\$283,878.02

